

## Message Text

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12  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02 STR-04

TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 SS-15 NSC-05 /078 W

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R 141753Z SEP 76

FM US MISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1852

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 2476

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY GABORNE

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EEC, XA

SUBJECT: EC COMMISSION TO TENTH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS IN  
SOUTHERN AFRICA

REF: (A) EC BRUSSELS 8706 (NOTAL); (B) EC BRUSSELS 8854 (NOTAL)

1. EC COMMISSION OFFICIALS HAVE INFORMED US OF THREE VISITS  
OF TOP COMMISSION OFFICIALS TO SOUTHERN AFRICAN COUNTRIES TO  
PARTICIPATE IN THEIR TENTH YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS.  
COMMISSIONER CHEYSSON STOPPED BRIEFLY IN SWAZILAND FOR ITS  
RECENT CELEBRATION (REF B). COMMISSION PRESIDENT ORTOLI PLANS  
TO BE IN BOTSWANA FROM ABOUT SEPT 30 TO OCTOBER 1 TO CELEBRATE  
ITS TENTH ANNIVERSARY. ON HIS RETURN, HE ALSO PLANS TO STOP  
IN MAURITUS. COMMISSIONER THOMSON TENTATIVELY PLANS TO PARTICIPATE  
IN LESOTHO'S ANNIVERSARY FROM OCTOBER 2-4. COMMISSION DEPUTY  
DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR DEVELOPMENT, MAURICE FOLEY, WILL BE ACCOMPANYING  
ORTOLI AND THOMSON. THE COMMISSION DOES NOT NORMALLY SEND HIGH-LEVEL  
DELEGATIONS TO SUCH CELEBRATIONS, BUT IN THESE CASES IT WANTS  
TO UNDERLINE EC INTEREST IN THE AREA AND TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY  
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TO MEET INFORMALLY WITH KEY SOUTHERN AFRICAN LEADERS.

2. A COMMISSION OFFICIAL, WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE VISIT TO SWAZILAND, TELLS US THAT CHEYSSON WAS WARMLY RECEIVED BY BOTH THE KING AND PRIME MINISTER. THEY EMPHASIZED TO CHEYSSON SWAZILANDS MODERATE AND NON-VIOLENT ATTITUDE TOWARD RACE RELATIONS. AT THE TECHNICAL LEVEL, SWAZILAND OFFICIALS COMPLAINED THAT THE 19 MILLION UNITS OF ACCOUNT (ABOUT \$21 MILLION) OF EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT FUND (EDF) ASSISTANCE FOR SWAZILAND UNDER THE LOME CONVENTION WAS TOO LITTLE. COMMISSION OFFICIALS POINTED OUT THAT SWAZILAND COULD RECEIVE ADDITIONAL EC ASSISTANCE FROM OTHER SOURCES SUCH AS THE EUROPEAN INVESTMENT BANK (EIB). IN FACT, THEY NOTE THAT THE EIB PLANS TO PROVIDE A LOAN OF ABOUT \$12 MILLION TO HELP FINANCE THE DEVELOPMENT OF A LARGE SUGAR PLANTATION THERE. THE EDF WILL ALSO PROVIDE ABOUT \$4 MILLION FOR THE SAME PROJECT. DESPITE COMPLAINTS ABOUT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE LEVELS, COMMISSION OFFICIALS SAY THAT SWAZILAND AUTHORITIES EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR AND ACTIVE INTEREST IN EC/ACP ACTIVITIES. HINTON

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## Message Attributes

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